

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/652,722

Examiner

Quang N Nguyen

Applicant(s)

DURRANT ET AL.

Art Unit

2141

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/12/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 31 August 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-18 are allowable.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In interpreting the claims, in light of the specification and the Applicant's arguments filed on 10/12/2004, the Examiner finds the claimed invention to be patentably distinct from the prior art of record.

**Chess (US 6,026,374)** teaches a system and method using of a trusted third party to provide a description of an information product of sellers to potential buyers, wherein a summarizer service (*a trusted third party as an exchange information system*) receives the information such as name of vendor, information identifying the information products (*various papers, books, journals, compiled reference works, government documents, etc.*) to be evaluated and connects to the vendor system to search for and to evaluate by computing a score for each information product, then relays the requested information back to the user (**Chess**, C2:L46 – C3:L24) .

**Burdick et al. (US 5,889,674)**, teach a method and system for reformat raw data in disparate formats into a standardized data format known as Data Input Standard (DIS), wherein periodically, raw data 101 is fed to reformatter server 102 which reformats the data in DIS format to produce DIS data 103 for loading into local database server 105 to produce database 106 as illustrated in Fig. 1 (**Burdick**, C5: L27-39).

The prior art of record teaches the claimed invention substantially, but it fails to teach or suggest individually or in combination that a method and system for information exchange in a component exchange system being capable of data communications with at least one seller processor being adaptable for communicating characteristic data regarding a plurality of components to the component exchange system and at least one buyer processor being adaptable for receiving the characteristic data from the component exchange system, comprising: a receiving system for receiving the characteristic data, from at least one of the at least one seller processor; a converter for receiving the characteristic data from said receiving system, examining said characteristic data and generating a data standard for the characteristic data therefrom, and converting the characteristic data into standardized characteristic data in accordance with the data standard; and an extractor for presenting the standardized characteristic data to at least one of the at least one buyer processor as set forth in independent claims 1, 10-11 and 18. Claims 1-18 are allowed because of the combination of other limitations and the limitation listed above.

The examiner finds the Applicant's arguments on pages 8-9 of the Appeal Brief filed on 10/12/2004 to be persuasive. The applicant argued in substance that the combination of prior art of records fail to disclose the features of the invention including a converter for receiving the characteristic data from said receiving system, examining said characteristic data (regarding a plurality of components) and generating a data standard for the characteristic data therefrom, and converting

**the characteristic data into standardized characteristic data in accordance with the data standard**, as claimed in the invention (see Appeal Brief, pages 8-9 and see Specification, page 6, line 25 – page 8, line 12), to provide the advantages of providing manufacturers with a common forum for sharing characteristic data (*regarding a plurality of components such as “seek time” and “pass rate”, etc.*) offering consumers a convenient mechanism for providing manufacturers with valuable feedback about their components, and facilitating meaningful analyses of each manufacturer's component characteristic data (see Summary, page 2, lines 19-22).


3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3886.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
RUPAL DHARIA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER